

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

AGORA WORKSHOP
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PRAGMATIC RESEARCH

- Research located in PROBLEMS in the world
- Results of research make a difference – solutions to the problems
- BUT!! SCIENCE IS BETWEEN –

PROBLEM



SCIENCE



SOLUTIONS

Research Design

- **Research Design** –
 - Find what you are NOT looking for
 - Allow the ‘world’ to challenge your assumptions and conclusions
- **Research Methodology** –
 - ensure the scientific quality of the procedures of inquiry

PROBLEM

SOLUTION

Research Question

THEORY

INTERPRETATION

CONCEPTS

DISCUSSION

VARIABLES

RESULTS

MEASURES

FINDINGS

DATA

Adapted from John Dewey, *The Logic of Inquiry*

TYPES OF RESEARCH DESIGNS

- **DEDUCTIVE**

- Drawing from Theory, Identify Concepts, and Define variables
- Test to see if predicted relationships hold in new situation

- **INDUCTIVE**

- Informed search for Variables
- Continuous search for patterns and relationships
- Iterative processes of Inference – Concepts
- Relate to Theory or Create new Theoretical Propositions

Quality of research=researcher

- Maintain the INTEGRITY of your data, findings, results.
- Clearly link your 'literature review' to your interpretation and analysis of results in the Discussion
- **DOCUMENT EVERYTHING!**
 - SCIENCE IS METHODOLOGY
 - HOW knowledge is created matters!
 - Enough documentation of all steps and decisions to allow reconstruction of each decision made in the study